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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**RECEIVED**

Application of: Dear *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/486,247

Group Art Unit: 1652

MAR 06 2002

Filed: May 25, 2000

Examiner: C. Fronda

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

For: PROTEASE-RELATED PROTEIN Attorney Docket No.: 8484-081-999

**Response to Office Action Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Box No-Fee Amendment  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action dated October 23, 2001 (Paper No. 14), and pursuant to C.F.R. § 1.111, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

Applicants enclose herewith:

- (A) *Appendix A*, representing a marked-up copy of the amended claims;
- (B) *Appendix B*, representing the claims as presently pending; and
- (C) a Petition for a one (1) month extension of time to respond to the outstanding office action..

**AMENDMENTS**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

8. (Twice amended) A method for the negative regulation of the keratinization

C1 of hair, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a protease-related protein, wherein said protease-related protein is encoded by a nucleotide sequence